

From: Dave Austin
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/21/01 12:59am
Subject: Settlement conditions

I believe that MS's offer of \$1B in goods and services to schools merely serves MS's purposes and is trojan horse furthering the monopoly. In the end those schools with MS products will extend reliance on MS.

A better solution would be for MS to spend the same \$1B purchasing their competitor's (i.e. Sun and Apple) goods and services. That would provide the schools with the same or better technology and give MS competitors the opportunity to compete, essentially helping to level the playing field.

MS's offer to give away their own goods and services worth \$1B is ludicrous. That \$1B give away will not only extend dependence upon further goods and services but will earn them that much and more over the an extended period because others (i.e. teachers, parents) will have to purchase equipment and software at home to support school children's work.

Please don't accept the MS offer as a golden goose. It has too many pitfalls.

Thanks,

Dave Austin